

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

William Buckminster, Editor.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 2, 1850.

NATIONAL MATTERS.

In a Session of three months the national legislature has done but little. This is better than to make rapid progress in a wrong direction. Too much legislation is worse than too little. It is said the only bill of consequence yet passed is one to grant for life the privilege of franking to the widow of the late President Polk. He having left how many widows have we in New England who have children in the West to correspond with, and who are obliged to sew, and knit stockings, and pay postage enough to make up for this franking?

The truth is his privilege of franking is the most odious one in our law, and ought not to be continued in favor of people not in actual public service. It operates unequally and unfairly.

Our representatives in Congress come from distant places and represent a great variety of interests. They must have time to become acquainted with each other's views before they can be expected to accomplish much in the way of legislation. In an assembly of 231 members no man can expect to accomplish much without acting in concert with numerous other members. To move onward alone in such an assembly is to insure defeat.

The Executive department of the government has not a majority in the House. The elections of members from the slave States turned upon the single question of slavery or no slavery, and Gen. Taylor finds as strong opposition from the slave States as from any quarter of the Free. Those members who favor his Fabian system—his forbearance and his mild policy—intend to move cautiously. They are opposed to risking all by one false move. They are therefore opposed to taking hold of the great bone of contention till they have secured a smaller one that will be granted and sanctioned by the three departments of government. They therefore oppose the admission of California with her free Constitution with the right they can muster in the House. They are confident the Bill for the admission of California cannot be effectively resisted in the Senate, for Gen. Houston, Col. Benton, and Gen. Cass will vote for it. It is in the power of the President to veto it. As to the House the measure will be carried by a strong hand there in case the Speaker will permit it to be acted upon. But the power of the President is so great that though two thirds of that body may be in favor of proceeding to business, it is in the power of one third, with the Speaker on their side, to stave off, and nullify common sense.

Thus on Monday last week the business of the day was the admission of California. The friends of the measure were in real earnest to carry it that day, for if it should slip by it would not come up again for two weeks. The free soil men joined in against Southern opposition and the Free men numbered 154 in opposition, to 43. This appeared to be their relative standing on the first motion to adjourn. This motion was made before any business had been done—a motion to adjourn and another the resolution to admit California.

Well, what of it? Why 40 or 50 members were able, under their able Speaker, to keep the House in confusion for no less than twelve hours in succession, and till the Speaker decided, at twelve at night, that the day assigned for resolutions had passed, and no business of that kind could be done. It is understood that no less than 40 motions were made to adjourn, and that the yeas and nays were often called for, so as to put the clerk to a call of the House—all done for delay.

If a small party in the House—say one third of the members, have it in their power, under the rules, to defeat the action of the two thirds, for twelve hours in succession, it seems to be quite time to alter those rules. For if one day can be nullified by one third of the members, two days may be, and a whole Session may be. But are not the rules sometimes suspended for the purpose of proceeding to business? Why were they not suspended on Monday? Our motion was made to suspend the rules, but we cannot learn that the Speaker, or Chairman, heard it with the right ear.

The Speaker decided, just before twelve at night, that the day assigned for resolutions would end at 12. This was a new sound in the ears of most of the members; but it was then too late to alter from the decision of the Chair, and the members, tired out and sleepy, were glad to quit for their lodgings. Thus ended the day for Resolutions. Good Resolutions are often defeated, but not often by such means as these. What is to prevent a defeat when the question comes up again? Will the House alter its rules, or will it submit again to do, and permit a minority to rule? Mr. Carter, a member from Ohio, inquired if the House is always to be governed by such a "miserable set of rules as these?"

From the practice of Monday it seems that motions to adjourn may be made as often as any one member may see fit to make them. Should there be no limit to such motions? Is it not perfectly ridiculous to go through with a count of the House and record all the names in favor, and against an adjournment, and then, without having done any kind of business, to be forced to count again as soon as any member can make a new motion? I suspect that common sense will say, aye.

Yet let us not despair. Much good will arise out of this glaring attempt of a minority to rule the House. A day of reform will come, and the clamors for slavery extension—for freedom to enslave—will stand where they ought to stand.

In the mean time it becomes the Free representatives of the Free States to act in concert on questions of this nature. When they see Southern members totally disregarding old party ties, and joining hands to perpetrate an institution abhorred by Freeman, it is no time to cavil and to quarrel on minor points of difference.

The conduct of Southern members on Monday last week, will show the opponents of slavery extension the necessity of uniting as one to be rid of this threatening evil. They should not at first make doubtful moves that would surely be opposed by the Senate and might do mischief in the Cabinet. Admit California first, and then carry if possible the Wilmut proviso through the territories. If this cannot be carried, put an end to the traffic in slaves at the seat of Government. This may be done with prudent management on the part of those who are in earnest in favor of the curtailment of that institution which causes the country more trouble and expense than all other evils we shall be likely to endure for half a century to come.

Congress adjourned over from Thursday to Friday last. The ten hour system will not do for a heard House. Twelve hours were taken on Thursday to accomplish nothing. The members did well to be free on Friday and Saturday. Will the same thing happen on Monday next—resolution day? Freeman ought to prepare and wait on the business of Monday next.

At the Farmers' Meeting on Thursday, our President, twelve Vice Presidents, nine Trustees and a Secretary were chosen for the Poultry Society.

EIGHTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

On Thursday last the Hall was very full—nearly five hundred people were present. Among them were Gov. Briggs, who spent the whole evening there.

Mr. Calhoun took the Chair at seven o'clock. He remarked that the meeting last fall in Boston Common, gave rise to this. He wished to hear from the Committee who had this subject in charge.

Col. Jagers, the Chairman of the Committee, said they had made a report. He made some remarks on the amount of poultry and eggs sold in Quincy Hall market. One dealer in Albany sells fifty to sixty thousand eggs in a year, to be sent to Boston market. In France the amount of poultry is immense. In England it is valued at \$50,000,000.

Col. Thayer of Braintree moved that a Society be formed—he was at first in favor of its being confined exclusively to Massachusetts.

Mr. S. W. Cole inquired if we are not already organized?

Col. Thayer thought the State might yet do something for the Society. When he was in the legislature in 1839 the State had then granted to Harvard College \$600,000. All this benefited the rich rather than the poor, for few poor men could send their sons to college. He did not object to assisting Harvard College, but other institutions ought to be favored.

He compared the excitement on the subject of poultry to that of the Mero fever. He thought that was of service to the country, though many lost by it.

Mr. Filton of Brookfield thought we ought to confine the Society to Massachusetts.

Mr. Giles of Providence wanted that other States should be included.

Mr. W. Buckminster would not exclude any people belonging to New England. People from Vermont and New Hampshire are daily inquiring at the Ploughman office for the new varieties of poultry, and as much poultry is brought here from all the New England States, why should we not make the improvement general?

Dr. Bennett was in favor of including all the New England States.

The Committee that had been selected to report a Constitution now appeared, and the Report was read. We have not the Report and can only state the substance of it. It provides for a President and twelve Vice Presidents, to continue in office till others are chosen.

February and November to be the times of the annual meetings. The officers to be chosen in February annually.

A motion was put to the Treasurer will constitute the payer a member for life.

A Committee of seven was now chosen to nominate the officers. While they were out Col. Thayer of Braintree, who has paid much attention to the rearing of poultry, said it was not good policy to keep a great number of fowls together. He has 150 acres of land, and keeps from 50 to 100 fowls. He said they would not law well without meat or fish. He keeps them warm in winter and cleans out the place where they roost every week. He white-washes their place of roosting twice a year. They must not be confined very close, for the air soon becomes foul.

He keeps wild geese of several kinds—says he has made much profit from them.

Mr. Giles agreed it is not profitable to keep a large number together. He does not find it necessary to give vent to ducks.

Col. Jagers went into the details of breeding and amused the audience by telling how to produce any color of feather in the fowl. He said the blood governed—that is, blood stock that has long been kept distinct or by itself rules the progeny. A male or female of ancient blood stock will have descendants to resemble itself more than it will resemble the other parent of a mixed breed. Hence by repeated crossing with a male of blood stock the common blood is entirely obliterated. After nine crosses of a full blood Merino, for instance, will be no pure that no trace of common wool can be discovered.

To show the importance of breeding from good stock he compared our present swine with the swine we had fifty years ago.

We have not a full list of the officers chosen by ballot have it next week. Col. Jagers was chosen President, and Hon. P. Lathrop of South Hadley, and Dr. Bennet of Plymouth, were chosen Vice Presidents for Massachusetts. The other Vice Presidents were from other States.

On Thursday next, Dr. Brooks will give another lecture on "diseases of the horse."

March came in yesterday with snow and rain. We have had but very few cold days through the winter, but there is time yet for cold weather.

Two half blood Devonshire bulls may be had at Wm. Buckminster's Farm in Framingham.

Several farmers from correspondents are received which will appear next week. Advertisements also omitted for want of room shall appear in their turn.

Phillips, Sampson & Co. 100 Washington street, have just published the first volume of "Milman's Gibbon's Rome," to which we invite the attention of those who would like to read of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, in good print, and in a neatly bound volume.

NEW ENGLAND POULTRY BREEDER. This is the latest book on the subject, in a neat little volume of 109 pages, with 25 accurate engravings. Published by R. B. Fitts & Co., 29 School St. Price 25 cents.

Redding & Co. also have it for sale at No. 8, State Street.

WASHINGTON. The difficulty between Bissell and Davis has been settled by the intervention of the President. They were to have fought with muskets at 15 paces distance; the preliminaries were all arranged this morning. A serious accident has happened to several of the main columns of the edifice of the Smithsonian Institution.

LEGISLATIVE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 22.

SENATE.—Passed to be enacted—Resolved, in favor of Zebina E. Newcomb; in favor of the county of Berkshire. Bills, additional, &c., incorporating the South Lee Manufacturing Co.; additional, &c., incorporating the city of New Bedford; concerning the compensation of Sheriffs; concerning the competency of witnesses.

The Plurality bill relating to Representatives in Congress, &c., was debated by Messrs. Merriam and Benjamin. The amendment referring the subject to the people, was rejected—yeas 11; nays 20—Absent 2.

The bill was then refused a third reading—yeas 15; nays 23—Absent 2. Mr. Walker asked to be excused from voting, and his request was refused.

So the bill was rejected.

The bill to amend acts for the better observance of the Lord's Day was then taken up, debated, and rejected, 15 to 19.

HOUSE. Passed to be enacted. Bills in addition, &c., to establish the City of New Bedford; in addition, &c., concerning the State Prison; in addition, &c., to incorporate the Grand Junction Railroad and Depot Company; to establish the Quabog Seminary.

Petitions presented and referred of the Southbridge and Blackstone, and Willimantic Railroad companies; in aid of that of Robert Codman and others.

The orders of the day were then taken up, and the consideration of the resolves for the abolition of the spirit ration and flogging in the navy, resumed.

But he could not believe, until he saw it, that a "compromise" on the California question, which the telegraph had imputed to Senator Webster, and which is said to satisfy Massachusetts, &c., &c., could be made.

The vote was 220 to 35 nays, and accordingly the resolves were ordered to a third reading.

As passed the resolves read thus: Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States are respectfully requested to use their best exertions to procure the abolition of the spirit ration in the navy; and also, the abolition of the cruel and degrading system of flogging for the preservation of discipline, and the substitution of a more humane system of punishment.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of these resolves to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

SATURDAY, FEB. 23.

SENATE. Passed to be engrossed—Bills, concerning the Grand Junction Railroad; establishing the Quabog Seminary; in relation to the State Prison.

Reports of Committees—On Towns—Bills, to incorporate the towns of Clinton and Groveland.

On Public Charitable Institutions—Bill to incorporate the Worcester County Mechanics' Association.

Passed to be engrossed—Resolves on petition of William A. Wheeler.

HOUSE. Passed to be enacted. Bills—in addition, &c., concerning the distribution of School Returns and other documents; to change the name of the New Universalist Society in Salem; in addition, &c., concerning the tax on sales by auction. Resolves—in favor of the towns of Hancock, East Bridgewater, Rehoboth, and North Bridgewater.

After the hour for the appointment of a Special Committee on the new valuation of the State, to sit during the recess.

Debatable matters were then taken up, and there was a good deal of further discussion on the bill relating to means of marriage.

The bill was ordered to a third reading.

MONDAY, FEB. 25.

SENATE. Seven resolves, and fifteen Bills, including those to incorporate the Ware Savings Bank; to annex part of Sharon to Foxborough; concerning the duties of the Attorney General; to provide further penalties for willfully obstructing railroads, passed to be engrossed.

The bill to extend the powers of Collectors of taxes was debated and finally passed to a third reading.

The bill protecting an intended for merchandise was passed to a third reading.

HOUSE. Senate papers were disposed of in concurrence.

Passed to be enacted—Bill concerning the Charles River and Warren Bridges.

Sundry petitions, &c. were presented and referred among them several in favor of the passage of a alien law.

After a recess, the resolve authorizing the Board of Education, to appoint agents was ordered to its third reading.

The bill relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors was specially assigned for Thursday next.

The bill to authorize the Boston and Worcester Railroad Corporation to increase its capital stock by the amount of 500,000 dollars, was debated till after 2 o'clock.

The provision restricting the Company from making any dividend when its floating debt exceeds 5 per cent. of its capital was stricken out by a vote of 39 to 74, and the bill then passed to be engrossed.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26.

IN THE SENATE. Petitions referred. Of S. G. Howe and others for the incorporation, as the Massachusetts Institution, for the training of weak minded youths; Francis Jackson and others in favor of a State Reform School for girls.

On Agriculture—Bills to incorporate the Franklin and the Amherst Agricultural Societies.

The orders of the day were taken up and the following passed to be engrossed.

the amount of fines, forfeitures, &c., paid into the County Treasury by the Standing Justice of the Peace Court in Lawrence. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Reports from Committees—By Mr. Russell of Boston, Committee on Probate and Chancery, resolve on the petition of Dwight Foster.

By Mr. Nutt of Boston, Committee on Claims, resolve on the petition of the Overseers of the Poor of Taunton.

By Mr. Elliot of Boston, Committee on Education, bill to incorporate the Trustees of Donations for education in Liberia, with a capital of \$100,000.

By Mr. Lawrence of Belchertown, Committee on the Judiciary, bill—in addition, &c., to establish the city of Charlestown; concerning streets and private ways in the city of Charlestown.

FREE-SOIL STATE CONVENTION. This body assembled in Faneuil Hall this morning, and was organized by the direction of John G. Palfrey of Cambridge, as President, with a large Board of Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

Mr. Palfrey proceeded to address the Convention, and was listened to with profound attention by a crowded auditory.

He briefly reviewed the influence which the South had exerted in the Government from the formation of the Union to the present time, and undertakes to show that the North had been cheated of her just rights and political power, from time to time, through various concessions and "compromises" forced upon her by chicanery or bravado in Congress—and sometimes, latterly, by the treachery of those who represent the North in the Senate.

But he could not believe, until he saw it, that a "compromise" on the California question, which the telegraph had imputed to Senator Webster, and which is said to satisfy Massachusetts, &c., &c., could be made.

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Passed to be enacted—Bills concerning Savings Banks when summoned as trustees; to provide further penalties for willfully and maliciously obstructing the passing of carriages upon railroads; in addition, &c., concerning the real estate of minors; concerning the duties of the Attorney General.

Petitions, &c. were presented and referred as follows: George B. Pease and others, for a mechanic's lien; of James Hayward, for a pension; of Henry Hemingway and others, for a law limiting the number of hours in a day's labor.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Treasurer of the County of Essex, in answer of an order of the House, stating

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FOURTEEN DAYS LATER.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

By the America, fourteen days from Liverpool, we have dates to the 9th of February.

During the past fortnight Cotton has been fluctuating, and after various alterations in price, has settled down to the quotations for Europe.

Orleans, 7 1/8; Mobile, 7 1/4; and fair upland 7 1/2. Sales of the fortnight are 99,500 bales, of which 26,000 American were taken on speculation.

Flour is not much called for, and prices have fallen from 1s. 1d. to 6d. on good brands.

Intelligence from the manufacturing districts is still fluctuating, and late accounts from India warrant the anticipation of increased orders from that quarter.

Riots have occurred in Paris—Greece has been blockaded by the British fleet.

ENGLAND.

Since the sailing of the last steamer, the Queen's speech has been delivered, and in some degree the main features of the proposed policy of ministers have been developed.

Both Houses of Parliament were opened by proxy on the 21st ult. when the speech from the Throne was delivered by the Lord Chancellor.

The new navigation law is working well, the ports are well filled, and ship building was never more brisk than at present.

Ministers have now avowed the line of policy which they mean to pursue in regard to the New American colonies; that is pretty well understood, that should these colonies desire to become either independent states, or to annex themselves to the United States of America, the opposition will be offered by Great Britain to their doing so.

One of the most astounding projects of the age, throwing the American prospectus for a submarine telegraph from New York to the Cape of Good Hope, has just been announced in London.

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CONGRESSIONAL CAPITAL TRIAL AT CAMBRIDGE. Daniel H. NEW ADVERTISEMENTS Bennett's Poultry Book. Soda Manufacturing Company's Valuable Farm for Sale, Notice.

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BOARD.
 (On Thursday.)

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PROVISIONS.

1	Dr. West, B.	10-1
2	Ed. West, B.	10-2
3	Wm. West, B.	10-3
4	Ed. West, B.	10-4
5	Ed. West, B.	10-5
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94	Ed. West, B.	10-94
95	Ed. West, B.	10-95
96	Ed. West, B.	10-96
97		

[illegible][illegible]

LEATHERS.

24	Boots, red...	14.00	18
24	Boots, black...	14.00	18
24	Shoes, black...	14.00	18
24	Shoes, black...	14.00	18
24	Shoes, black...	14.00	18

LIME.

1	1/2 ton, 40 lbs...	15.00
1	1/2 ton, 40 lbs...	15.00
1	1/2 ton, 40 lbs...	15.00
1	1/2 ton, 40 lbs...	15.00
1	1/2 ton, 40 lbs...	15.00

WOOL.

24	Wool, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wool, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wool, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wool, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wool, 10 lb...	15.00	18

SEEDS.

24	Wheat, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wheat, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wheat, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wheat, 10 lb...	15.00	18
24	Wheat, 10 lb...	15.00	18

THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION IS LOUISIANA.

Little sympathy is given to the gathering of the people at Nashville, Tenn., among those of Louisiana. The Committee of Federal Agents in the House of Representatives have tried against sending delegates to such a treasonable gathering. The New Orleans Bulletin says that the people of both political parties are opposed to the scheme. Every day demonstration of the powerlessness of Calhoun's disunion phantasm in the Southwest. First, Missouri abolished in quick succession by Texas and Tennessee. Arkansas no formidable demonstration between made for a Southern Republic, nor did Carolina and Georgia is there any unanimity for disunion. (Tribune.)

VIOLATING THE LICENSE LAW. The fines for

FOR SALE.

For sale, a good farm, situated on the corner of Main and Second streets, in the city of Nashville, Tenn. The farm is situated on a lot of 10 acres, and is well improved with a large house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

Farm for Sale.

Containing 15 acres of good land, suitably divided into mowing, pasturing, and woodland, with a large house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

Farm in Wayne for Sale.

To be sold, the farm in Wayne, 15 miles from Nashville, lately owned by John H. Bland, deceased. The farm contains 120 acres, of which about 100 are very heavily timbered with oak wood. There are on the land a good house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

Valuable Farm for Sale.

A farm, containing 50 acres of land, suitably divided into mowing, pasturing, and woodland, with a large house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

Farm to Let.

A farm, containing 10 acres of land, suitably divided into mowing, pasturing, and woodland, with a large house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of letting the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

FOULTRY BREEDER.

Just published, and for sale at all Bookstores in town and country, a new work, entitled "THE N. E. POULTRY BREEDER." With 25 accurate Engravings of Fowls. This is a practical work, and will be in the hands of every farmer and poultryer.

Farm for Sale.

Will be sold at Public Auction, at the Tavern on Monday next, at 10 o'clock, by J. H. Bland, the 15th of March next, on Wednesday, the 15th of March next, at 10 o'clock in the afternoon.

Farm for Sale.

A valuable farm, situated in the Eastern part of Tennessee, containing 100 acres of land, with a convenient Buildings thereon. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

Farm for Sale in Ashland.

Containing Twenty-Five Acres of choice land, situated half a mile from the Ashland, Tenn. The farm is well improved with a large house, a barn, and a well. The owner is desirous of selling the farm at a low price, and is willing to accept of an offer of \$10,000. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of JOHN JONES of Nashville.

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Timothy, of 1.00 375
 Grass & bush 1.00 375
 Red Top, bush 1.00 375
 North 1.00 375
 South 1.00 375
 Orchard Grass 1.00 375
 Seed Wheat, bush 1.00 375
 Spring Rye, " " 1.00 375

The offices of Messrs. BURLINGHAM & TILLOTSON, and one or two others, in 'Rail-road Exchange,' Court Square, were broken into on Saturday night, but nothing of much value was stolen.

BOURSWEN, N. H., March 2.

A small Farm, in the North-West part of Weston, near the Fitchburg R.R.-tr-d. For further particulars, inquire of the widow MARY SMITH, on the premises, or of ELBRIDGE DARLING, 14 India Street, Boston.

A large and convenient Dwelling-House, a Barn, 27 feet by 46 feet, with all necessary Out-Buildings, all in good repair. For further particulars, inquire of LYMAN FAY, on the premises, or MARTIN FAY, at Framingham Depot, or ADOLPHUS FAY, at Milford Depot.

West Bridgewater, Feb. 16th. BENJ. HOWARD.

